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CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

The People's Republic of China has played a low-key,
supportive role on Central American and Caribbean issues.

TALKING POINTS

--CUBA, WITH SOVIET BACKING, IS PROMOTING SUBVERSION

THROUGHOUT THE CARIBBEAN BASIN AND ENGAGING IN A FULL-SCALE

DIPLOMATIC AND PROPAGANDA OFFENSIVE TO SUPPORT ITS GOALS.

-- PRC CONDEMNATION OF SOVIET AND CUBAN INTERVENTION IN

EL SALVADOR HAS HELPED ALERT THE WORLD TO SOVIET USE OF ITS

CUBAN PROXY TO PROMOTE ITS EXPANSION IN THE NAME OF

NATIONAL REVOLUTION.

-- THE PRC CAN PLAY A CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS BY SUPPORTING LDC MODERATES AND

OPPOSING CUBAN ACTIONS DESIGNED TO ADVANCE SOVIET AND CUBAN

GOALS IN CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN.

-- THE PRC CAN ALSO HELP EXPOSE CUBAN AND SOVIET

EXPANSIONISM IN THE CARIBBEAN BASIN TO LATIN AMERICAN AND

EUROPEAN AUDIENCES.

-- U.S. ACTIONS ON EL SALVADOR ARE DESIGNED TO PREVENT

THE CUBANS FROM OBTAINING ANOTHER BASE IN CENTRAL AMERICA.

-- OFTEN OVERLOOKED IS THE FACT THAT THE U.S. IS

PROVIDING THREE TIMES AS MUCH ECONOMIC AS MILITARY

ASSISTANCE TO EL SALVADOR. IN ORDER TO REDUCE THE

VULNERABILITIES OF THE CARIBBEAN BASIN STATES, THE U.S. IS

CONSULTING WITH OTHERS TO DEVELOP A MECHANISM TO ADDRESS

THE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF THE REGION.

-- OUR EFFORTS IN THE CARIBBEAN ARE DESIGNED TO PREVENT

CUBA FROM MAKING FURTHER INROADS AND TO PENALIZE GRENADA

FOR ITS CLOSE COLLABORATION WITH CUBA.

-- IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR THE U.S. AND THE PRC TO

EXCHANGE INFORMATION ON CUBAN AND SOVIET ACTIVITIES IN THE

CARIBBEAN BASIN.